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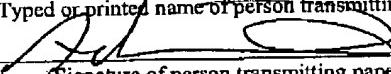
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Ronald D. Steiger	Examiner:	Stephen M. Baker
Serial No.:	09/894,189	Art Unit:	2133
Filed:	June 27, 2001		
For:	OPTICAL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM WITH VARIABLE ERROR CORRECTION CODING		
Docket No.:	4524.P020		

Mail Stop AF
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT B AFTER FINAL REJECTION
37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Sir:

This amendment is submitted in response to the final Office Action mailed March 9, 2004, for the above-noted patent application.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner do the following with this amendment:

1. Please enter the amendments to the specification, if any, in section I.
2. Please enter the amendments to the claims, if any, in section II.
3. Please consider the amendments in sections I and II in view of the remarks in section III.

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OFFICIAL**FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET (TRANSMITTAL TO PTO)**Deliver to: Examiner Stephen M. BakerFirm Name: U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEFax Number: (703) 872-9306 Telephone No.: _____From: Todd M. BeckerDate: June 8, 2004 Time _____Operator: Adrian Villarreal Matter: 4524.P020Number of pages Including cover sheet: 19 pagesIn Re Patent Application of: Ronald D. StiegerApplication No.: 09/894,189Filed: June 27, 2001For: OPTICAL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM WITH VARIABLE ERRORCORRECTION CODINGEnclosed are the following documents: Per your request.Transmittal Letter (in duplicate) – 4 pagesAmendment B After Final Rejection – 14 pages**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION**

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05/01/03

Attorney's Docket No.: 4524.P020PatentIn re the Application of: Ronald D. Stieger
(inventor(s))**AMENDMENT UNDER
37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**Application No.: 09/894,189**EXAMINING GROUP 2100**Filed: June 27, 2001For: OPTICAL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM WITH VARIABLE ERROR CORRECTION CODING

(title)

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 COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

SIR: Transmitted herewith is an **Amendment After Final Action** for the above-referenced application.

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

XX **No additional fee is required.**
 A Notice of Appeal is enclosed.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	(Col. 1)	(Col. 2)	(Col. 3)
Total Claims	* 44	Minus	** 44
Indep. Claims	* 5	Minus	*** 5
First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claim(s)			

SMALL ENTITY	
Rate	Additional Fee
X9	\$ 0
X43	\$ 0
+145	\$ 0
Total Add. Fee	\$ 0

OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	
Rate	Additional Fee
X18	\$ 0
X86	\$ 0
+290	\$ 0
Total Add. Fee	\$ 0

* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

*** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space. The "Highest No. Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

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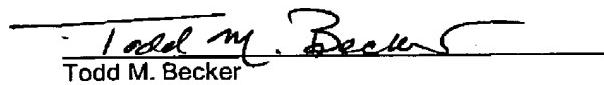
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- A check in the amount of \$ _____ is attached for presentation of additional claim(s).
 Applicant(s) hereby Petition(s) for an Extension of Time of _____ month(s) pursuant to
37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).
 A check for \$ _____ is attached for processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.
 Please charge my Deposit Account No. 02-2666 the amount of \$ _____.
A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- The Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666
(a duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed):
- X Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 for presentation of extra claims.
 X Any extension or petition fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: 5-10-04
Todd M. Becker

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